The underwater camera, in addition to being able to count scallops not caught in nets, was also able to count scallops in ocean areas that federal regulators had closed to scallopers. They found the scallop numbers in the closed areas were also greatly underestimated.

''I've always supported the idea of controlling fishing, but I also support the idea of the best science,'' Dr. Rothschild said. ''What we did was really good science.''

Jean MacCormack, the chancellor of UMass Dartmouth, noted the singular nature of Brian Rothschild convincing a federal regulatory agency to change its practices.

''It's pretty unusual,'' she said, ''to develop a methodology that NMFS accepted.''

''NMFS was saying there were no scallops and they proved them wrong,'' Mr. Avila said. ''That was one of the main components of the rejuvenation of the scallop industry.''

New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang is unqualified in his praise of Brian Rothschild.

''I think he's the difference between the scallop industry prospering, as they have in the last decade, versus being in the same situation as groundfish,'' he said.

The mayor was referring to the fact that the New Bedford groundfishing industry has suffered from stringent federal fishing regulations.

New Bedford was the nation's busiest port last year, for the ninth year in a row, with 60 million pounds of fresh seafood landed, with a value of $281 million, principally due to the scallop catch.

Dr. Rothschild stresses that he's a big supporter of conserving fisheries but, because fish live below the surface, they aren't easily measured. He thought that if he could improve the science, he could benefit both the fishery and the fishermen.

''There was some resistance from the fisheries service. And some of the conservation groups thought our estimates were in error, but it's a solid scientific process we went through,'' he explains.

Dr. Rothschild subscribes to a view of ocean ecology that the fishermen, and their fishing efforts, are themselves an integral part of the ocean ecology of a given area.

''You have to look at a balance between the substantial effects that humans have on the (fish) populations and the productivity of the populations. That's what conservation is in this day and age.''

Because fishing species, under certain conditions and to a certain extent, proliferate in the wake of a fishing effort, Dr. Rothschild set out to balance the maximum amount of fishing effort needed to benefit human beings with the maximum amount of fishing effort needed to benefit the population of fish species.

Currently, SMAST is studying counting methods for groundfish (which unlike scallops, move around in the ocean). The objective is to obtain more accurate counts of the groundfish (haddock, cod, yellowtail flounder) in the New England fishery.

Because the federal government's currently accepted methods of counting groundfish counting show the stocks are depressed, NMFS intends to further restrict the fishing effort—which is already a barely profitable industry—next year.

The failure to find a better method for integrating the effects of fishing and groundfish proliferation has had devastating effects on the local industry, Dr. Rothschild said.

''You can see all this happening in New Bedford. The (fish) populations are being managed biologically yet there's a tremendous amount of economic grief,'' he said. ''The societal grief won't be realized until these contemplated cuts (in the fishing effort) take place.''

People will be displaced from their jobs and end up on government ''welfare,'' dependent on the taxpayers, he said.

In addition to his professional fields of expertise, Dr. Rothschild is an active advocate for area fisheries and his research on important government and quasi-government boards and commissions. He worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the 1970s as a senior policy adviser so he well understands how the regulatory bureaucracy works.

Presently, he chairs New Bedford's Ocean and Fisheries Council (an advocacy group for the city's fishing interests), co-directs the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Institute (a research partnership between UMass Dartmouth and the state Division of Marine Fisheries) and chairs the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council.

The goal is to bring fishing regulations more into line with statistics that better reflect ocean science, including in the economics of the fisheries, he said.

''One measure of performance is overfishing, another is optimal yield (of fish), another is minimal angst among the people that are regulated,'' he said. ''I think we could do a much better job so we need to increase the dialogue with the agency. (That's) a step that Barney Frank and the mayor and I have been involved in.''

Congressman Frank, who along with Sens. John Kerry and Edward Kennedy, has long advocated for the city's interests in Washington, said Dr. Rothschild has been very helpful in making the scallop industry more successful.

''The beauty of Brian is that he knows the scene better than anybody else,'' he said.

Dr. Rothschild's reputation as a scientist has given his studies credibility with the federal government, said Mayor Lang.

A former professor at the state universities of Maryland and Washington, Brian Rothschild is the author of nearly 100 papers and books and is an acknowledged expert in fish population dynamics, biological oceanography, and natural resources policy. Next year, in collaboration with several West Coast fishery scientists, he will publish a book on the future of fisheries science in North America.

Mayor Lang calls him the perfect expert on the Magnusson-Stevenson Act that governs American fisheries.

''He understands how it relates to species and he understands how it relates to human beings,'' he said.

Dr. MacCormack noted that even though Dr. Rothschild has an international reputation as a scientist, he is completely at home with the fishermen and fishing boat owners on the New Bedford docks.

''When you see him present a paper to academics, he speaks their language, but he can go to the fish auction and speak their language, too,'' she said.

Boat owner Rodney Avila gave a similar assessment.

''He doesn't talk down to fishermen, he talks with them. That's important,'' he said.

''He's a good, all-around man,'' said Mr. Avila.

Brian Rothschild has dug deep into New Bedford in the 13 years he's been at UMass Dartmouth.

He and his wife, Susan, have refurbished one of the long-neglected Victorian houses in the city's West End and he has a studio in the North End where, in his spare time, he builds replicas of 18th century furniture.

He has traded in the sailboat he first came to New Bedford in for a 40-foot ''Novi,'' a recreational fishing boat where he and Susan fish for local fish that make good eating: stripers, fluke and whatever else in local waters that might taste good.

His wife, like himself, loves fishing and ocean studies so it makes for an interesting crew, he said, the dry sense of humor he's well known for coming through.

Dr. Rothschild said he hopes his New Bedford legacy will be the use of ocean science to continue the revival of the fishing industry, and he hopes that SMAST can continue to build the quality of its faculty so it becomes one of the nation's elite marine science schools.

It may be, however, that Dr. Rothschild's biggest legacy will be tied to the people of New Bedford themselves.

He admits that his survey is unscientific but he says the city has changed since 1995 when he first arrived, sailing his own boat from Maryland to the city, passing Cuttyhunk and then finally coming up a foggy Acushnet River.

''When I moved here, the houses were, in general, in a state of disrepair. The economy looked bleak,'' he said. ''As the economy and the fish auction developed, the community seemed brighter and better furbished and more prosperous.''

That's not a bad legacy, for an ocean scientist who sees local fishermen as part of the sea's ecology.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MOUNT McKINLEY NAME ACT

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, Representative BETTY SUTTON and I offer the attached bill, on behalf of the now-retired Congressman Ralph Regula (R–OH).

January 29th brings the birthday of President William McKinley, a native son of Niles, Ohio and a true patriot whose presidency was tragically ended by assassination. In order to preserve President McKinley's memory and continue to honor him, it is fitting to retain the name of North America's highest point, Mount McKinley. Reaching an astounding height of 20,320 feet, Mount McKinley honors this prominent figure who was not only a fallen President but also a Union veteran of the Civil War. Mount McKinley has borne the name of our 25th Commander-in-Chief for over 100 years. We must retain this national landmark's name in order to honor the monumental legacy of this great President and patriot.

GAZA

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I am observing the violence unfolding in the Middle East with great concern. My constituents, like many across the nation, are horrified by the loss of life that is occurring on top of several decades of strife, and yearn for a solution that would bring stability to the region. I continue to believe that the United States has a central part to play and must return to an active and engaged role as mediator between Israel and the Palestinian people.

The solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is also a regional one, and it is high time that all countries in the neighborhood play an active role in supporting a two state solution.